The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

In Photos: Russian Students Return to School

September 01, 2026

Children in Russia marked the start of a new school year on Tuesday. Every year on Sept. 1, schoolchildren in Russia and several other countries that were formerly part of the Soviet Union celebrate День Знаний (Den Znaniy), or Knowledge Day. The holiday traditionally sees parents bringing bouquets to teachers, while students dress in their finest uniforms, with girls often wearing hair bows. Russian schools and society continue to see increasing militarization in their lives as the fifth year of Russia's war in Ukraine rages on. This year, a wave of false bomb threats triggered mass evacuations at schools, kindergartens, hospitals and museums across at least nine Russian regions, local officials and media reported Tuesday.

Andrei Borodulin / AFP

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https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/09/01/in-photos-russian-students-return-to-school-a93614